

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1-14, 16-17, 21-23, 25-43, 45-55, 61, 66, and 68 are pending, of which claims 1, 5-9, 26, 31, 49, 61, 66, and 68 have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance. Support for the claim amendments can be found in the specification at least at pages 17-25.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's time to discuss claim 1, Fig. 4, and specification pages 17-25 of the subject application on July 12, 2006 in an effort to identify allowable subject matter that may be incorporated to place the pending claims in condition for allowance. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 26, 49, 61, and 66 are amended to incorporate subject matter that is at least allowable over the references of record. The Examiner also reserved the right to further consider and/or search in view of the claim amendments after Final, and Applicant files an RCE herewith.

Claim 1 is amended to include allowable subject matter such that claims 1-14, 16-17, 21-23, and 25 are in condition for allowance;

Claim 26 is amended to include allowable subject matter such that claims 26-43 and 45-48 are in condition for allowance;

Claim 49 is amended to include allowable subject matter such that claims 49-55 are in condition for allowance;

1 Claim 61 is amended to include allowable subject matter such that claim 61
2 is in condition for allowance; and

3 Claim 66 is amended to include allowable subject matter such that claims
4 66 and 68 are in condition for allowance.

5
6 Accordingly, all pending claims 1-14, 16-17, 21-23, 25-43, 45-55, 61, 66,
7 and 68 are in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests issuance
8 of the subject application.

9
10 **35 U.S.C. §103 Claim Rejections**

11 **A.** Claims 1-14, 16-17, 22-23, 26-43, 46-47, 49, and 52-55 are rejected
12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 5,942,707 to
13 Tamura (hereinafter, "Tamura") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,942,707 to
14 Maher et al. (hereinafter, "Maher") (*Office Action* p.2).

15 **B.** Claims 21, 25, 45, 48, 50-51, 61, 66, and 68 are rejected under
16 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over Tamura and Maher, and further in view of
17 U.S. Patent No. 5,852,251 to Su et al. (hereinafter, "Su") (*Office Action* p.8).

18
19 As described above, the independent claims 1, 26, 49, 61, and 66 are
20 amended to incorporate subject matter that is at least allowable over the references
21 of record. Accordingly, all of the rejected claims are in condition for allowance
22 and Applicant requests that the §103 rejections be withdrawn.

1 **Conclusion**

2 Pending claims 1-14, 16-17, 21-23, 25-43, 45-55, 61, 66, and 68 are in
3 condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests issuance of the subject
4 application. If any issues remain that preclude issuance of this application, the
5 Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent
6 Action.

7
8 Respectfully Submitted,

9
10 Dated: July 31, 2006

11 By: 

12 David A. Morasch
13 Lee & Hayes, PLLC
14 Reg. No. 42,905
15 (509) 324-9256 x 210